

# The Liberal Democrat

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\$1.50 Per Year

## SHERIFF OF MORTON COUNTY KILLED

Quite a little excitement was stirred up all over southwestern Kansas Sunday afternoon when it became known that Sheriff Martin Moore of Morton county had been killed by Don Wormer, a real estate man of Rolla. The prisoner was brought to Liberal Sunday afternoon and placed in the Seward county jail, but threats of violence were heard in Morton county and Monday afternoon several deputy sheriffs from that county came over and took Van Wormer to the Hamilton county jail at Syracuse. The following account of the tragedy, under a Dodge City date line, appeared in Monday's issue of the Topeka Capital, and seems to be accurate so far as we have been able to ascertain:

"Officials of Morton county are in conflict and the operation of the law has been practically suspended as a result of the slaying at Rolla, Saturday night, of Sheriff Martin Moore.

"Don Van Wormer, a rolla real estate man, has been spirited out of Morton county to safe keeping in the jail in Hugoton, Stevens county, and two other men whom one faction in the county want arrested as accomplices of Van Wormer in the slaying of Moore are still at large through the failure of other county officials to issue warrants for them.

"The slaying of the sheriff follows a conflict over authority between a constable and the sheriff's office. About 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon Van Wormer went to his room to lie down for a nap. He was annoyed by the noise of a flock of guinea hens belonging to a neighbor and he stepped to a rear door and took a shot at them. Some of the shot from his gun struck a man passing the house. This man complained to the sheriff, who attempted to arrest Van Wormer without a warrant. Van Wormer refused to accompany the officer, who returned to a justice's office for a warrant. While he was gone a constable secured a warrant in another justice's office, went to Van Wormer's office and arrested him. He left the prisoner at the office of the justice in charge of two deputies and went in search of the justice to give Van Wormer a hearing. In his absence Sheriff Moore arrived with another warrant, deputized the two deputy constables as deputy sheriffs and dragged Van Wormer out of the office.

"Outside, it is charged, one of the deputies struck the sheriff, the prisoner escaped back to the office, seized a revolver and shot the sheriff through the head as he came back after him. Moore died instantly. The county attorney is out of the county and other officials have refused to issue warrants for the two deputy constables.

"A telegram to the attorney general signed by twelve men of Morton county was received by W. P. Montgomery, assistant attorney general. The telegram stated that the county attorney is absent from the county and on account of the complicated

## Sooner or Later You too, Will Come to Styleplus Seventeen

Do you pay around \$25.00 for custom-made clothes? If you do we can open your eyes as to style and fit with good wear guaranteed at the low price of \$17. And if you pay around \$20 for ready to wear clothes, you can't afford to ignore



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Some day you will decide to find out why Styleplus has such a big reputation. The fabrics are fashionable patterns, water shrunk, all wool. Any kind of a model you prefer...All designed by a fashion artist whose ability no one can doubt. Hand tailored where it counts. All the big things...reduced to medium price by the novel methods of the makers. Always \$17, season after season.

### Then Remember

That We Handle Stein-Block High Grade Hand-Tailored Clothes for Men.

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"OLDEST, BIGGEST, BEST."

**CHAS. SUMMERS & SONS** LIBERAL KANSAS

LIBERAL, KANSAS;

GUYMON, OKLAHOMA;

DALHART, TEXAS



## BOUND OVER TWO "STICK-UP" MEN

Two young men, giving their names as Dick Wisdom and Henry Crason, in company with two other fellows who got away, held up two men at the depot on Thursday night of last week, robbing one of \$4.80 and getting some valuables from both. They also held up J. W. Elliott, the night watchman, but took nothing from him. The two parties held up were strangers here and gave their names as Lee and Morgan. They notified Sheriff Dobson and he started hunting for them at once, but they had walked to the cut west of town and boarded a freight that happened to be running at low speed while making the hill. Word was sent to the different towns to watch for them and the sheriff at Dalhart nabbed them as soon as they landed. Sheriff Dobson went to Dalhart Sunday and brought the boys back the next day. Their preliminary was held Tuesday before Judge D. C. Wood, who found them guilty and bound them over to the district court in the sum of \$500, which they were unable to furnish. They will have to lay it out in jail until district court convenes next fall. Owing to the nature of their crime they will undoubtedly get a chance to "make little ones out of big ones" at Lansing before they get through with the deal.

## FOUNDING OUT WHEAT

The writer of these lines enjoyed a short ride into the country a few miles northeast of Liberal Wednesday in Quincy Holland's car. Quincy wanted to show us how a real threshing outfit looked when in operation, and we must acknowledge that the outfit looked like it meant business. The Holland machine is knocking out about 2,500 bushels every day, and if that gait is continued a couple of months it ought to make a considerable dent in the wheat stacks over the country, when you consider the number of other machines in operation. The wheat is making the best test this year of any in the history of the country—lots of it going to 64 pounds per bushel—and the kernel is well filled and rounded out. With the price a little better than a dollar per bushel the farmers should begin looking around for safes to store their money until they can come to town to bank it. The Holland boys are running their machine for the third season and have made good money out of the outfit every year, too, something every owner of a rig cannot show.

## ESTHER BETTY WRIGHT

Eather Betty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Wright, died Friday. She was born October 19, 1904, and was 11 years, 9 months and 3 days old at the time of her death. She had suffered from heart trouble and was seriously ill for about ten days preceding her death. Funeral services were conducted at the home Saturday by Rev. C. D. Hestwood of the Methodist church, and interment was made in the Liberal cemetery.

## MAY INSTALL NEW SWITCHBOARD

Secretary Broadwell of the Chamber of Commerce was circulating a petition the last of the week among the business firms and patrons of the Liberal Telephone Company, requesting the Public Utilities Commission to allow the Telephone company to raise its present rates, provided the company installs a multiple switchboard and common battery service. This kind of a switchboard would necessitate a complete overhauling of the system, installation of new phones everywhere there is one now in use, and would obviate the necessity of ringing central every time you desired to talk. A sample switchboard is now on display at the Land-Thayer real estate office, where it will be demonstrated to anyone desiring to investigate the merits of the same. The new system would do away with

much inconvenience now contended with by both the public and the operators, and would apparently be a fine thing for the town. Its installation would come to at least \$15,000 to \$25,000, but Mr. Steverson says he is willing to make the change if the people of the town desire it and will stand the raise in rates. The new rates would be \$2.50 per month for business houses; \$1.50 per month for residences, and \$1.25 per month for two-party line service. The town has outgrown the present system and would have to come to the new arrangement in a few years anyway, so the company figures it might as well install it now as later on. If the deal is made it will be a splendid forward step in the progress of Liberal, and would speak well for Mr. Steverson's efforts in giving the town the best service that money can buy.

Later—Since the above was written a deal has been closed by the company and the new switchboard is assured. It is expected to have the same installed and in operation some time in September.

## ADVERTISING LIBERAL IN COLORADO

Twenty-two Liberal people who are now enjoying the balmy mountain breezes of Manitou and Colorado Springs, Colorado, gathered together last Friday, so the report comes to Liberal, and held a picnic at Stratton Park, near Colorado Springs. Liberal is well represented in Colorado this year, and were they all in one place at the same time it would make quite a colony. Incidentally, they never fail to let the stranger know from whence they hail, and the town should get considerable good advertising from those who are temporarily sojourning in the wilds of the Rocky Mountains.

## EX-GOV. HOCH TO BE HERE

Ex-Governor E. W. Hoch of Kansas will speak at the Chautauqua next Friday, either afternoon or night. Mr. Hoch was governor of Kansas in 1903 and 1904 and the state made progressive strides in a legislative way during his administration. He is one of the big men of the country and will have a message for his hearers that will be worth coming miles to hear.

## WILL HAVE EXPRESS DELIVERY

The express wagon committee of the Chamber of Commerce reports that the city delivery for Liberal has been assured and that the wagon will be put on within a period of the next thirty to sixty days.

## BAND CONCERTS BEGIN AUG. 2

The Liberal Band will begin a series of concerts on Wednesday, August 2nd. It has not yet been decided how long these concerts will be given, but they will probably continue until some time in September. It was the intention at first to have these concerts on Saturday nights but owing to the fact that more than half of the band boys are engaged in business which requires them to work on Saturday night, this plan had to be given up. The concerts will be held on one of the three central street corners every Wednesday, changing each week. They will begin at 8 o'clock and it is the desire of the band that the merchants make the fact known to their trade and have a large crowd out on these occasions. The band is improving rapidly under the supervision of Director Reasoner, and Liberal will soon have one of the best bands in Kansas.

## CHAUTAUQUA TICKETS ON SALE

At a meeting of the Chautauqua Board Tuesday morning it was decided to conduct the ticket-selling campaign by a number of teams. Each team has a captain who is responsible for the sale of the tickets. The following men were elected captains: Chas. Taylor, Frank Boles, Tom Teggarden, G. L. Light, Clyde Atha, and W. H. Meyer. The ticket sale has started out briskly and promises to far over-reach last year's advance sale.

## NEW APPARATUS FOR PLAYGROUND

During the past week some new apparatus has been supplied for the playground. It consists of a log swing and a trolley with pulley attachment.

The attendance at the playground is steadily increasing and the boys and girls are getting some healthful instruction. If your children have not been attending the classes at the playground, start them in as it will be time well spent.

## BABY ACCIDENTALLY KILLED

Leslie, the year old baby of Mr. and Mrs. George Tuman, who live about seven miles southeast of Liberal, was accidentally killed last Friday by the wheel of a wheat wagon passing over one side of its head. The little fellow was under the wagon and its whereabouts was unknown to the driver, who thought it was with the other children near the house. The baby only lived about an hour after the accident. Interment was made in the Lorens cemetery. This accident is a severe shock to the parents and is deeply regretted by everyone.

## Ladies' Watches, \$10 to \$30

ASK TO SEE THEM



Does your watch run satisfactorily? If not, bring it to us. We can make it keep time or your money refunded. We guarantee our repair work to give satisfaction in every way.

**O. J. WILKINS, Jeweler**  
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LIBERAL, KANSAS

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